

said air duct and first and second exit ports disposed at respective opposite first and second end portions of said duct; and

an air flow generator coupled to said inlet port for producing a first and a second air flow, said first air flow being directed from said inlet port to said first exit port, said second air flow being directed from said inlet port to said second exit port;

a heat pipe having an evaporator portion and a condenser portion, said integrated circuit package being thermally coupled to said evaporator portion; said condenser portion being coupled to said housing of said air duct.

10. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said fins comprise integrally formed protruding members along said first internal surface.

11. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said fins comprise a first and second array of protuberances integrally formed along said first and second internal surfaces, respectively.

12. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said housing comprises a material having a high thermal conductivity.

13. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said housing comprises aluminum.

14. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said air flow generator comprises a fan.

15. The apparatus of claim 9 wherein said air flow generator comprises a resonate cantilever vibrator.

16. A portable computer comprising:

an enclosure having an air duct comprising a housing having internal fins, said air duct directing an air flow from an inlet port located near the center of said air duct to first and second exit ports located adjacent opposite end portions of said air duct, said air duct having a substantially equal width as said enclosure, said enclosure comprising first, second and third sides;

an air flow generator coupled to said inlet port for producing said air flow; and

heat transfer means thermally coupling a heat generating component located within said enclosure to said air duct housing.

17. The portable computer of claim 16 wherein said first and second exit ports face said first side such that said air flow leaves said enclosure from said first side.

18. The portable computer of claim 16 wherein said first and second exit ports face said second and third sides, respectively, such that said air flow leaves said enclosure from said second and third sides.

19. A method for cooling a heat generating component located within an enclosed compartment, said method comprising the steps of:

thermally coupling said heat generating component to the housing of an air duct having a thin cross-section relative to the width of said air duct, including the steps of thermally coupling said component to an evaporator portion of a heat pipe, and thermally coupling a condenser portion of said heat pipe to said air duct housing; and

producing an air flow through said air duct by directing air external to said compartment into an inlet port located at or near the center of said air duct and splitting said air flow into a first air flow and a second air flow, said first air flow being directed to a first exit port located at a first end portion of said air duct, said second air flow being directed to a second exit port located at a second end portion of said air duct.

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